



WHO are you?

GENEALOGY ·N·E·W·S·



JANUARY 2018



Welcome a new year! 2018 Wednesday, January 10th 4:30PM

The meeting in January will be a simple gathering where we share upcoming ideas for programs and talk about our respective treasure hunting for relatives. I am planning quite a few fascinating programs coming along in the Spring, but I have not found that winter is a good time for guests due mainly to weather concerns. Those snow storms are always bound to throw a curve to best laid plans. So come along and share a hot cocoa on cold day – bring a thing or tell a story, and catch up with fellow ancestral sleuths.

Grayce

Please read the privacy note that came through from Ancestry on Page 3

Upcoming Programs: Dates and more information TBA

- 🔗 **DNA for Genealogy:** In the process of looking for an expert to give positive and negative review of various DNA analysis. Wow, they even were suggesting DNA as a present for Christmas.
- 🔗 **Maps:** I have happened upon quite a few articles recently regarding old maps, and I think how to search them will make for a fascinating program. I know I like to see where and how my ancestors lived.
- 🔗 **Upcoming 1950 census:** Not for a while, but sooner than you think, a new wealth of information will be available. The first census after WW2, will show all those baby boomers, giving you many more clues – remember working backwards from those you know is a super searching way to go.

*An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in.
A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.*

~ Bill Vaughn



This newsletter is created & written by
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Library Hours
Mon – Thurs 9-8
Friday 9 – 6 • Saturday 9 -5
Sunday closed

**Mohr Library
Genealogy Group**
2nd Wednesday, 4:30
Special Program times vary



U.S. Department of Commerce (//www.commerce.gov) | Blogs (//www.census.gov/about/contact-us/social_media.html) | Index A-Z (//www.census.gov/about/index.html) | Glossary (//www.census.gov/glossary) | FAQs (//ask.census.gov)

(//www.census.gov/en.html)

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History

1950 Overview

1950

Census Day was April 1, 1950.

Enumeration

The 1950 census encompassed the continental United States, the territories of Alaska and Hawaii, American Samoa, the Canal Zone, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and some of the smaller island territories.

Americans abroad were enumerated for the first time in 1950. Provisions were made to count members of the armed forces, crews of vessels, and employees of the United States government living in foreign countries, along with any members of their families also abroad. This enumeration was carried out through cooperative arrangements with the departments of Defense and State, the United States Maritime Administration and other federal agencies that took responsibility for distributing and collecting specially designed questionnaires.

Other persons living abroad were to be reported by their families or neighbors in the United States, but the quality of these data was considered to be poor and they were not included in the published statistics.

A new survey on residential financing was conducted as part of the 1950 census. In a separate operation, information was collected on a sample basis from owners of owner-occupied and rental properties and mortgage lenders.

Efforts to Improve Coverage and Completeness

Several procedures were used to improve the accuracy and completeness of the 1950 census, including: improved enumerator training, providing enumerators with detailed street maps of their assigned areas, publishing "Missed Person" forms in local newspapers, and setting a specific night to conduct a special enumeration of persons in hotels, tourist courts, and other places frequented by transients.

For the first time, a post-enumeration survey was instituted as a further check on the accuracy and completeness of the count. The Census Bureau canvassed a sample of about 3,500 small areas and compared these to the original census listings to identify households that may have been omitted in the original enumeration. In addition, a sample of about 22,000 households was reinterviewed to determine the number of persons likely omitted in the initial count.

Technological Advancement

The Census Bureau began use of the first non-military computer shortly after completing the 1950 enumeration.

UNIVAC I (for Universal Automatic Computer), the first of a series, was delivered in 1951, and helped tabulate some of the statistics for the 1954 economic censuses. It weighed 16,000 pounds and used 5,000 vacuum tubes.

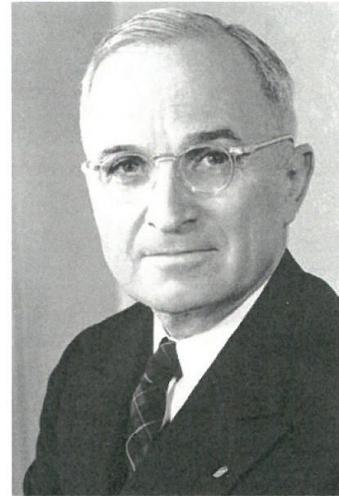
Intercensal Activity

In August of 1954, Congress codified the various statutes, including 1929's Fifteenth Census Act, which authorized the decennial and other censuses, as Title 13, US Code. Since then, Title 13 (along with other laws) has been the underlying authority that governs the actions of the Bureau.

Further Information

- A detailed procedural history of the 1950 census is available in *The 1950 Censuses - How They Were Taken* (<http://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/1950/procedural-history/1950proceduralhistory.zip>) [ZIP 37.3MB]
- A wide variety of historical statistics from this and other decades is available in *Historical Statistics of the United States: Colonial Times to 1970*. It is available as a PDF (<http://www2.census.gov/prod2/statcomp/documents/CT1970p1.pdf>) [74.4MB] or 2-part ZIP file: [Part I \(http://www2.census.gov/prod2/statcomp/documents/CT1970p1.zip\)](http://www2.census.gov/prod2/statcomp/documents/CT1970p1.zip) [52.2MB] | [Part II \(http://www2.census.gov/prod2/statcomp/documents/CT1970p2.zip\)](http://www2.census.gov/prod2/statcomp/documents/CT1970p2.zip) [66.1MB].
- [Reports and statistics from the 1950 census \(/prod/www/decennial.html\)](http://www2.census.gov/prod/www/decennial.html)

A printable version of this page can be downloaded [here \(//history/pdf/1950overview-2011.pdf\)](http://www2.census.gov/history/pdf/1950overview-2011.pdf) [PDF 55KB].



Harry S. Truman was President of the United States on Census Day, April 1, 1950.

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ABOUT US
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 Are You in a Survey?
 (//www.census.gov/programs-surveys/are-you-in-a-survey.html)
 FAQs (//ask.census.gov)
 Director's Corner
 (//www.census.gov/about/leadership.html)
 Regional Offices
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 History
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FIND DATA
 QuickFacts
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 American FactFinder
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 2010 Census
 (//www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/2010-census.html)
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 Help With Your Forms
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 Economic Census
 (//www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census.html)
 E-Stats
 (//www.census.gov/programs-surveys/e-stats.html)

PEOPLE & HOUSEHOLDS
 2020 Census
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 2010 Census
 (//www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/2010-census.html)
 American Community Survey
 (//www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/)
 Income
 (//www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/income.html)

SPECIAL TOPICS
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 Statistics in Schools
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 Tribal Resources (AIAN)
 (//www.census.gov/about/congress-affairs/intergovernmental-affairs/tribal-affairs/tribal-resources.html)
 Emergency Preparedness
 (//www.census.gov/topics/preparedness.html)

NEWSROOM
 (//www.census.gov/newsroom.html)
 News Releases
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 Release Schedule
 (//www.calendarwz.com/calendars/calendar=cens1sample&cid=31793)
 Facts for Features
 (//www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features.html)
 Stats for Stories
 (//www.census.gov/newsroom/stories.html)

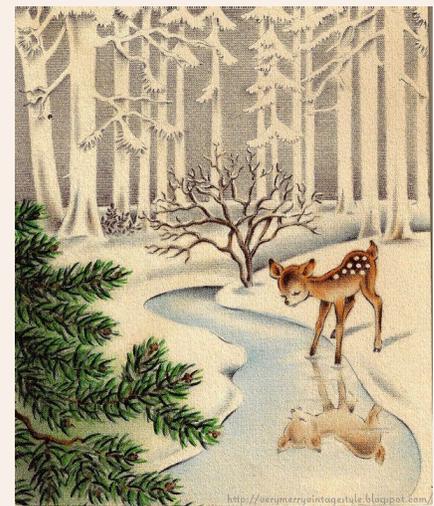
Save the date!!!

What: Diggin' Your Roots, a genealogy workshop

When: May 5th, Saturday afternoon 1 – 4pm

Sponsored by: Rhode Island Historical Society

Providence Public Library and Mohr Library



This program will be open to everyone, will be advertised in the Sunrise, social media and other places. Due to seating concerns we may need to top out attendance at 20, so I am letting you know very far in advance that even if you think you are beyond beginner, I know you will learn a lot!

Presenters: Michelle Chiles (RIHS) and Kate Wells (PPL)

Description: What is genealogy? How do you start to build your own family tree? This workshop will cover the basics to get you started. You'll learn basic research methods and work with free websites (or paper if you prefer!) to create your own family tree. You'll learn to search several free genealogical databases, learn about resources available to you at Rhode Island Historical Society, Providence Public Library, and in your own community and how to use what you find to document your family history. Basic comfort using a computer for online research is required.



Note from rootsweb

✂✂✂ We want to share an important security update with you.

✂✂✂ Last Wednesday, December 20, Ancestry's Information Security Team received a message from a security researcher indicating that he had found a file containing email addresses/username and password combinations as well as user names from a RootsWeb.com server. Our Information Security Team reviewed the details of this file, and confirmed that it contains information related to users of Rootsweb's surname list information, a service we retired earlier this year. For those of you who are unfamiliar, RootsWeb is a free community-driven collection of tools that are used by some people to host and share genealogical information. Ancestry has been hosting dedicated RootsWeb servers as a favor to the community since 2000. Importantly, RootsWeb does not host sensitive information like credit card numbers or social security numbers, and is not supported by the same infrastructure as Ancestry's other brands. We are in the process of informing all impacted customers, and will work with regulators and law enforcement as appropriate.

✂✂✂ We also reviewed the RootsWeb file to see if any of the account information overlapped with existing accounts on Ancestry sites. We did confirm that a very small number of accounts – less than one percent of our total customer group – used the same account credentials on both Rootsweb and Ancestry commercial site. We are contacting these customers. In all cases, any user whose account had its associated email/username and password included on the file has had their accounts locked and will need to create a new password the next time they visit.

What Happened

✂✂✂ Immediately after receiving the file containing the RootsWeb surname list user data, the Ancestry Information Security Team commenced its analysis of the file and its contents, and started a forensic investigation of RootsWeb's systems to determine the source of the data and identify any potential active exploitation of the RootsWeb system. As a result of that analysis, we determined that the file was legitimate, although the majority of the information was old. Though the file contained 300,000 email/usernames and passwords, through our analysis we were able to determine that only approximately 55,000 of these were used both on RootsWeb and one of the Ancestry sites, and the vast majority of

(continued on Page 4)



Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library

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those were from free trial or currently unused accounts. Additionally, we found that about 7,000 of those password and email address combinations matched credentials for active Ancestry customers. As part of our investigation, our team also uncovered other usernames that were present on the RootsWeb server that, though not on the file shared with us, we reasonably believe could have been exposed externally. We are taking the additional step of informing those users as well.

✂✂✂ We believe the intrusion was limited to the RootsWeb surname list, where someone was able to create the file of older RootsWeb usernames and passwords as a direct result of how part of this open community was set up, an issue we are working to rectify. We have no reason to believe that any Ancestry systems were compromised. Further, we have not seen any activity indicating the compromise of any individual Ancestry accounts.

What We've Done

✂✂✂ As a result of this discovery, we have taken two immediate corrective actions.

✂✂✂ First, for the approximately 55,000 customers who used the same credentials at RootsWeb's surname list and Ancestry – whether currently active or not – we have locked their Ancestry accounts and will require that they create a new password the next time they visit. We have also sent them emails to alert them to the situation. Though we have seen no activity that indicates these accounts have been compromised, we believe taking this additional measure is the right step to ensure the security of these customers. If you have not received an email or a notice requiring you to change your password, you have not been affected. Again, this issue involves less than one percent of our users, so there is a very good chance your account wasn't involved.

✂✂✂ Second, we have temporarily taken RootsWeb offline, and are working to ensure that all data is saved and preserved to the best of our ability. As RootsWeb is a free and open community that has been largely built by its users, we may not be able to salvage everything as we work to resolve this issue and enhance the RootsWeb infrastructure.

What You Should Do

✂✂✂ If you are a customer whose account was impacted, you will receive an email telling you that you need to change your password. In that case, you will be required to create a new password the next time you visit Ancestry.

✂✂✂ For the vast majority of customers who are not impacted by this, there is nothing you need to do as a result of this incident. However, we always recommend that you take the time to evaluate your own security settings. Please, never use the same username and password for multiple services or sites. And it's generally good practice to use longer passwords and to change them regularly.

What We're Doing from Here

✂✂✂ As always, your privacy and the security of the data you share with us are our highest priority. We are continually assessing our policy and procedures and always seeking ways to improve our approach to security. We understand the importance of our role as stewards of your information and work every day to earn your trust.

✂✂✂ We are doing a deep analysis of RootsWeb, its design and how we might be able to help the community enhance the site and its services. It is our desire to continue to host these tools for the community with appropriate safeguards in place.

✂✂✂ Please let us know if you have any questions at Support Center, and thank you for your understanding.

➔ Tony Blackham is Chief Information Security Officer at Ancestry.



There are many documents explaining all kinds of stuff that is on the United States Census page. Fantastic information for genealogists if you know where to look.

You can pour over the slew of documents on

[census.gov](https://www.census.gov)